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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In the context of its activities for the promotion and protection of human rights, the United Nations pays special attention to the elimination of torture, which is strictly prohibited by a large number of rules of international law and is not to be tolerated under any circumstances, even during states of emergency or armed conflict. Torture is one of the most serious violations of the physical integrity of the human person, since it may lead to physical and mental consequences which can last for several years or even be irreversible.

2. Despite the various measures taken by the United Nations to encourage the implementation of rules for protection against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, torture continues to be used in many countries. In order to assist the victims of torture, the General Assembly, by resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, created the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. It did this by redefining the mandate of the United Nations Trust Fund for Chile, which had been established by General Assembly resolution 33/174 of 20 December 1978, to encompass all victims of torture anywhere in the world.

3. In accordance with arrangements adopted by the General Assembly in 1981 in resolution 36/151 (see A/36/540, annex), the Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly on an annual basis on the management of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, indicating funds available, pledges and contributions received as well as disbursements from the Fund. This report has been prepared in accordance with the above-mentioned arrangements.

II. PRESENTATION OF THE FUND

4. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 36/151, voluntary contributions to the Fund from Governments, non-governmental organizations and private individuals are to be distributed through established channels of assistance, as humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of torture and to relatives of such victims. Thus, the Fund provides financing to humanitarian organizations which submit projects involving medical, psychological, social or legal assistance to the victims of torture and their relatives.

5. The Fund is managed by the United Nations Secretariat, and more specifically by the Centre for Human Rights in Geneva. It is administered, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, by the Secretary-General, assisted by a Board of Trustees composed of five members who possess wide experience in the field of human rights, serve in a personal capacity and are appointed by the Secretary-General for a renewable three-year term of office on the basis of equitable geographical distribution and in consultation with their Governments.

6. The Board of Trustees is composed of Mr. Jaap Walkate, Chairman (Netherlands), Mrs. Elisabeth Odio Benito (Costa Rica), Mr. Ivan Tosevski (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), and Mr. Amos Wako (Kenya). It holds an

annual session, in the spring, when for a week it gives careful consideration to the large number of projects received. It makes recommendations to the Secretary-General on projects which it considers relevant and in keeping with the Fund's mandate.

III. THE FUND'S FINANCIAL SOURCES

7. The Fund receives contributions from Governments, non-governmental organizations and private individuals. In order to respond to requests for financing for assistance to victims of torture, contributions must be paid before May, when the Board meeting is held. Any contribution made after the meeting is carried over to the following year.

A. Government contributions

8. Government pledges to the Fund are made either directly to the secretariat, or at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities held in New York or, less frequently, at the annual session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

9. The following pledges were outstanding as at 15 September 1995:

Brazil	\$10,000 for 1995
Germany	\$61,908 for 1995

10. The number of Governments contributing to the Fund rose from 5 in 1982 to 30 in 1994. In 1995, the number of government contributions decreased, since five regular donor States did not provide any support to the Fund (see table 1).

Table 1. Trend in the number of States contributing to the Fund
(United States dollars)

Year	Donor States	Amount of contribution
1982	5	410 100
1983	8	361 846
1984	18	497 900
1985	13	515 859
1986	21	814 091
1987	19	783 602
1988	24	974 485
1989	20	735 679
1990	14	749 923
1991	20	1 096 449
1992	16	1 204 339
1993	27	1 926 198
1994	30	3 112 541
1995	25	2 829 629

11. Subsequent to the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session (A/49/484), 29 Governments made voluntary contributions to the Fund between 13 September 1994 and 15 September 1995 (see table 2).

Table 2. Government contributions from 13 September 1994 to 15 September 1995

Government	Contribution (United States dollars)	Year	Contribution No.
Algeria	5 000.00	1994	1
	5 000.00	1995	2
Andorra	1 000.00	1995	1
Argentina	2 985.00	1995	5
Austria	20 000.00	1995	11
Belgium	92 148.68	1994	5
	104 420.47	1995	6
Canada	17 094.00	1995	12
Chile	3 000.00	1995	3
Cyprus	500.00	1995	7
Czech Republic	5 000.00	1995	2
Denmark	184 535.89	1995	13
France	18 587.37	1994	16
	102 040.82	1995	17
Germany <u>a/</u>	58 897.00	1995	13
Greece	10 000.00	1995	13
Iceland	5 633.80	1995	10
Israel	20 000.00	1994	1
Japan	100 000.00	1994	9
Luxembourg	3 131.61	1994	11
	5 330.00	1995	12
Monaco	16 778.00	1995	2
Morocco	1 500.00	1995	1
Netherlands	113 787.88	1994	13
New Zealand	19 890.00	1995	10
Norway	81 351.00	1995	10
Portugal	10 000.00	1995	1
Spain	54 660.59	1995	10
Sweden	475 367.00	1995	9
Switzerland	24 409.45	1995	8
Tunisia	1 489.57	1994	5
United Kingdom	47 620.00	1995	6
United States of America <u>b/</u>	1 000 000.00	1994	10
	1 500 000.00	1995	11

(Footnotes to table on following page)

(Footnotes to table 2)

a/ Germany has partially paid off its pledge of \$120,805.

b/ The United States has paid the remainder of its 1994 contribution, in the amount of \$1.5 million.

Note:

For the second consecutive year, the United States of America has made a contribution of \$1.5 million. This represents 15 times more than its contribution for 1992.

As in the previous year, Belgium's contribution was eight times larger than its contribution for 1988.

Algeria, Andorra, Israel and Portugal contributed to the Fund for the first time.

The Czech Republic and Monaco contributed to the Fund for the second time.

Austria, Cyprus, Germany, Japan, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland contribute to the Fund regularly. Denmark, France, Greece, Iceland, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Sweden and Spain, all regular contributors, significantly increased their support.

As at 15 September 1995, a significant decrease was noted in the number of States contributing regularly to the Fund's financial activities. There were 20 donor States in 1994, compared with 15 in 1995; this corresponded to a decrease in contributions of about \$1 million.

B. Contributions from non-governmental organizations
and private individuals

12. Some organizations have contributed to the Fund since its inception. Since 13 September 1994 the Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers) has provided a grant of \$517.

13. Mention should be made of the donation by the Sharp Corporation of Geneva in May 1995 of the use of high-speed copiers, which in a few hours produced 15,000 photocopies needed to provide sets of documents for the members of the Board of Trustees at the fourteenth session; this saved the Fund secretariat three days of work during a very busy period and was equivalent to a voluntary contribution of about Sw F 2,000.

14. The following individual contributions were received: US\$ 105.64 from Mrs. North (Canada), \$231.50 from Mr. Girardot (France) and \$500 from Mr. Prémont (France).

IV. ASSISTED PROJECTS

A. Selection criteria

15. Projects to be financed from the Fund must meet the criteria recommended over the years by the Board of Trustees and approved by the Secretary-General. The project selection criteria relate to various objectives:

(a) Medical and psychological assistance (including psychiatric and psychotherapeutic treatment);

(b) Social, economic or legal assistance (help with social rehabilitation);

(c) Training of health-care professionals; and

(d) Organization of seminars and lectures on the subject of torture.

16. Grant applications may come from non-governmental organizations or directly from a victim. Non-governmental organizations involved in humanitarian activities generally are connected with rehabilitation centres located either in the victim's country of origin or in the receiving country.

B. Submission of projects

17. The organization requesting Fund support must provide detailed information on the assistance it will provide to torture victims and their relatives and must attach a project description form (see A/49/484, annex VIII) to its funding request files indicating, inter alia, the type of assistance offered; the number and nationalities of the identified victims; the type of torture suffered, its effects on the victims and the circumstances in which it occurred; the composition of the project staff and their experience assisting torture victims;

the expected duration of the project and its various stages; and a detailed budget indicating the overall cost of the project and the amount requested from the Fund, which will cover only one third of the total amount.

18. Projects will be treated as strictly confidential if the organization so wishes. Non-governmental organizations receiving Fund support which have authorized the secretariat to reveal their names, the type of assistance they provide and their geographical distribution are listed in an annex to this report (annex II). There were 114 such organizations in 1995.

19. Torture victims requesting direct assistance from the Fund are required to compile a detailed medical file certified by the attending physician. The secretariat may seek the advice of health professionals of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on a case-by-case basis. The file is then transmitted to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, which, after due consideration, may decide to offer a grant.

C. Role of the Fund secretariat and the Board of Trustees

20. The Fund secretariat is responsible for the administrative and financial management of projects throughout the year. It assists organizations with project development; deals in English, French and Spanish with the persons in charge of projects and ensures project follow-up from inception to implementation. The secretariat also prepares narrative and financial reports on the grants awarded and ensures that such grants are in conformity with the Fund's guidelines. It also provides the Board of Trustees, at its annual meeting, with a brief summary of each project submitted. In addition, the secretariat deals with all financial matters of the Fund and carries out the recommendations of the Board of Trustees regarding the award of grants.

21. At its annual meeting, the Board of Trustees reviews all the projects receiving assistance which are still under way, as well as all new grant applications. It may suspend payment of all or part of a grant until satisfactory narrative and financial reports are received by the secretariat, which may consult the Chairman of the Board between sessions, or all members of the Board if necessary.

22. In addition, rapid intervention is sometimes necessary to finance urgent medical treatment or to assist an organization known to the Fund that is in danger of having to terminate its activities; in such cases, the Board of Trustees may decide to recommend an emergency grant of up to US\$ 10,000 in each case. An amount of US\$ 100,000 has been earmarked for an emergency fund to be used for such grants.

D. Types of projects submitted to the Fund

23. Since the inception of the Fund, the practice of the Board of Trustees has been to recommend to the Secretary-General that grants should be awarded to the following types of projects: psychological and medical assistance, economic and social rehabilitation, training of health-care professionals, assistance with

the establishment of treatment centres, meetings of experts, assistance to direct and indirect child victims of torture, assistance with the publication of works and legal assistance.

24. The bulk of grants goes to projects for the treatment of torture victims, particularly medical, psychological and social treatment.

25. Psychological treatment is essential, as some of the serious consequences of torture are of a psychological nature, such as depression, chronic anxiety, paranoia and a feeling of deep humiliation, in some cases to the point of suicide. Psychological assistance is also extended to the relatives of torture victims, who suffer indirect effects.

26. Medical treatment is designed to deal with physical injuries and requires highly specialized care. Some programmes involve centres offering such treatment to victims, others are for referral centres where victims are received, listened to and examined, and then referred to medical specialists.

27. These treatments take the form of individual, family or group therapy and rehabilitation programmes. Each treatment programme is tailored to the local situation and to the needs of the victims and their families; they are based on a comprehensive approach dealing with all the problems resulting from torture (medical, psychological, social and economic problems), and taking account of the family, social and occupational environment of the individual concerned. The victim first undergoes a thorough examination to determine his exact needs and is then directed, as far as possible, to the appropriate services. If those services are inadequate, efforts are made to provide the victim and his family with medical treatment, physiotherapy, psychiatric and psychological treatment and social and economic assistance.

28. A new trend has emerged in the policy of the Board of Trustees since 1994. The Board is now encouraging legal assistance projects designed to defend the right of torture victims to restitution, indemnification and rehabilitation before national courts. Such official acknowledgment of the torture suffered is an essential stage in the psychological rehabilitation of victims.

E. Number and geographical distribution of projects

29. From the establishment of the Fund until 15 September 1995, 252 files were started by the Fund secretariat. One organization may submit several projects which may give rise to a number of subprojects. Some projects received may fall outside the purview of the Fund, fail to meet all the criteria, be abandoned by their sponsors, become impracticable because of armed conflict, or be rejected because the secretariat and the Board of Trustees believe that the organization fails to provide guarantees of proper project implementation. In addition, each year, about a dozen projects are held in abeyance pending the receipt of further information.

30. In 1995 the Board was called upon to handle an unprecedented number of projects involving requests primarily from African, Eastern European and Asian organizations (see table 3).

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Table 3. Geographical distribution of projects and organizations awarded grants in 1995

Region	Number of projects	Number of organizations
Africa	19	15
North America	11	11
South America and the Caribbean	18	18
Asia and the Middle East	19	18
Europe	<u>37</u>	<u>31</u>
Total	104	93

F. Close collaboration with United Nations bodies

31. Collaboration with United Nations bodies in the field, such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), already effective in the past when the Fund secretariat sought additional information about a given project, has been even stronger in 1995. UNDP has been directly involved in the implementation of some projects, with the agreement of the managers, and a policy of coordination with UNHCR in the provision of assistance to refugee torture victims is gradually being established. This kind of cooperation is receiving increasing encouragement from the Board of Trustees, which at its last session recommended collaboration in the field with a United Nations body for more than 15 projects.

G. Fourteenth session of the Board of Trustees

32. The Board of Trustees held its fourteenth session in Geneva from 15 to 24 May 1995. A press release on the Board's recommendations is annexed to this report (annex III).

1. Funds available

33. In accordance with the rules governing the Voluntary Fund, 15 per cent of estimated annual expenditures must be earmarked as a reserve for the following year, and 13 per cent is the rate set for programme support costs.

34. Thus, after these amounts are deducted, the total amount available to the Board of Trustees in May 1995 for grants to projects to assist victims of torture came to \$2.7 million, or \$1 million less than in 1994.

2. Amount of requests for funding

35. The number of requests for funding to assist victims of torture grows each year. In 1995, they came to more than \$6 million for 112 projects or subprojects, among them 28 new applications from humanitarian organizations and 5 from victims themselves.

3. Recommendations of the Board of Trustees

36. The Secretary-General approved the Board's recommendations regarding grants to 104 projects submitted by 93 humanitarian organizations (see annex I). In the course of the session, the Board of Administration heard 11 representatives of organizations carrying out 37 different projects. Despite the financial crisis which the Fund is experiencing in 1995, the Board made an effort to honour about 40 per cent of each request for funding which met the selection criteria established by the Board.

37. The Board of Trustees recommended that its Chairman should visit the Medical Foundation of London to meet its directors and, with them, organize a meeting with the various organizations receiving grants from the Fund that are based in the United Kingdom.

38. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees urges closer cooperation between the Fund and specialized agencies, such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Accordingly, the Board met the director of the UNHCR Mental Health Service to discuss more extensive and more coherent joint action, and information was exchanged on each other's methods of work. The purpose of this collaboration is to develop common strategy for assisting victims of torture and violence.

39. Lastly, given the growing number of applications to review during the session and the lack of time for full treatment of substantive questions and fund-raising issues, the Secretary-General draws the attention of the General Assembly to the Board's recommendation that a 10-day extension of the session should be approved.

V. FUND-RAISING

A. Resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights

40. By resolution 36/151 the General Assembly authorized the Board of Trustees of the Fund to promote and solicit contributions and pledges. The General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to give the Board of Trustees all the assistance it might require and appealed to all Governments to respond favourably to requests for contributions to the Fund.

41. In keeping with the programme of work it outlined in decision 48/431 of 20 December 1993, the General Assembly adopts resolutions concerning the Fund

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only in even years. Resolution 49/176 of 23 December 1994 is the last one it adopted on the matter. The Assembly, in this resolution, and the Commission on Human Rights, in resolution 1995/37 of 3 March 1995, appealed to all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for contributions to the Fund, if possible on a regular basis and annually before the session of the Board of Trustees of the Fund.

42. Furthermore, in paragraph 16 of resolution 1995/37, the Commission on Human Rights calls upon the Board of Trustees to report to it at its fifty-second session on the increasing need for overall rehabilitation services for torture victims.

B. Letters to States

43. The Board of Trustees was very much in favour of the proposal by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights that letters should be written once again in 1995 to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of States that have never contributed to the Fund, inviting them to do so, and to contributing States encouraging them to increase their contributions.

44. The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights sent a letter at the beginning of the year to the Governments which had made pledges, expressing the hope that they would make good on them before the session of the Board of Trustees. Some countries, such as Spain, Luxembourg and Monaco, had responded positively to this invitation.

C. Action by non-governmental organizations

45. Some organizations are bringing information on the activities of the Fund to the attention of their Governments. The United States organization Center for Victims of Torture, based in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is lobbying the United States Government extensively. For instance, it addressed a letter to the United States Congress asking, inter alia, that the Government's contribution to the Fund should be maintained at \$1.5 million for 1996.

Annex I

CONTRIBUTIONS AND PLEDGES BY GOVERNMENTS
(from February 1982 to 15 September 1995)

State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
Algeria	1	US\$	5 000.00	(30.12.1994)	(for 1994)	
	2	US\$	5 000.00	(14.12.1994)	(for 1995)	
Andorra	1	US\$	1 000.00	(10.2.1995)	(for 1995)	Ptas 130 000
Argentina	1	US\$	5 000.00	(6.7.1988)	(for 1988)	
	2	US\$	4 000.00	(13.2.1989)	(for 1989)	
	3	US\$	4 000.00	(15.11.1991)	(for 1990)	
	4	US\$	2 996.00	(15.11.1991)	(for 1991)	
	5	US\$	2 985.00	(25.4.1995)	(for 1995)	
	1	US\$	12 816.00	(18.12.1984)	(for 1984)	SA 15 000
Australasia	2	US\$	3 573.00	(17.2.1988)	(for 1988)	
	3	US\$	6 212.30	(30.11.1993)	(for 1993)	
	4	US\$	3 592.00	(18.5.1994)	(for 1994)	
Austria	1	US\$	5 000.00	(19.12.1985)	(for 1985)	
	2	US\$	5 000.00	(16.10.1986)	(for 1986)	
	3	US\$	5 000.00	(15.10.1987)	(for 1987)	
	4	US\$	5 000.00	(9.3.1988)	(for 1988)	
	5	US\$	5 000.00	(21.2.1989)	(for 1989)	
	6	US\$	5 000.00	(22.2.1990)	(for 1990)	
	7	US\$	6 000.00	(21.10.1991)	(for 1991)	
	8	US\$	10 000.00	(19.10.1992)	(for 1992)	
	9	US\$	10 000.00	(28.10.1993)	(for 1993)	
	10	US\$	20 000.00	(24.5.1994)	(for 1994)	

State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
Austria (continued)	11	US\$	20 000.00	(25.5.1995)	(for 1995)	
Belgium	1	US\$	10 000.00	(21.2.1985)	(for 1984)	
	2	US\$	10 000.00	(2.2.1987)	(for 1986)	
	3	US\$	10 000.00	(30.3.1988)	(for 1987)	
	4	US\$	83 844.78	(23.12.1993)	(for 1993)	BF 3 000 000
	5	US\$	92 148.68	(30.12.1994)	(for 1994)	3 000 000
	6	US\$	104 420.47	(27.7.1995)	(for 1995)	3 000 000
Bhutan	1	US\$	1 000.00	(18.1.1994)	(for 1993)	
Brazil	1	US\$	5 000.00	(17.6.1985)	(for 1985)	
	2	US\$	5 000.00	(21.11.1986)	(for 1986)	
	3	US\$	5 000.00	(1.8.1988)	(for 1988)	
	4	US\$	5 000.00	(26.4.1993)	(for 1992)	
	5	US\$	10 000.00 ^{a/}	(20.12.1994)	(for 1995)	
Cameroon	1	US\$	1 113.77	(9.8.1984)	(for 1984)	
	2	US\$	1 344.90	(15.4.1986)	(for 1986)	
	3	US\$	1 227.21	(29.9.1989)	(for 1989)	
Canada	1	US\$	7 932.00	(23.11.1983)	(for 1983)	Can\$ 10 000
	2	US\$	7 633.59	(12.12.1984)	(for 1984)	10 000
	3	US\$	36 496.35	(15.4.1985)	(for 1985)	50 000
	4	US\$	7 103.00	(25.2.1986)	(for 1986)	10 000
	5	US\$	7 692.00	(14.4.1987)	(for 1987)	10 000
	6	US\$	24 390.00	(15.4.1988)	(for 1988)	30 000
	7	US\$	25 200.62	(30.3.1989)	(for 1989)	
	8	US\$	25 031.73	(8.3.1990)	(for 1990)	
	9	US\$	26 652.41	(20.11.1991)	(for 1991)	

State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
Canada (continued)	10	US\$	24 939.73	(8.6.1992)	(for 1992)	
	11	US\$	19 668.55	(30.3.1994)	(for 1994)	
	12	US\$	17 094.00	(13.1.1995)	(for 1995)	
Chile	1	US\$	2 000.00	(16.2.1993)	(for 1991)	
	2	US\$	2 000.00	(11.5.1994)	(for 1994)	
	3	US\$	3 000.00	(15.5.1995)	(for 1995)	
Costa Rica	1	US\$	10 000.00	(5.1994)	(for 1993)	
Cyprus	1	US\$	500.00	(19.8.1982)	(for 1982)	
	2	US\$	200.00	(29.9.1983)	(for 1983)	
	3	US\$	250.00	(11.4.1984)	(for 1984)	
	4	US\$	300.00	(23.12.1986)	(for 1986)	
	5	US\$	500.00	(23.12.1992)	(for 1992)	
	6	US\$	500.00	(23.12.1993)	(for 1993)	
	7	US\$	500.00	(12.12.1994)	(for 1995)	
Czech Republic	1	US\$	2 500.00	(31.1.1994)	(for 1994)	
	2	US\$	5 000.00	(4.4.1995)	(for 1995)	
Denmark	1	US\$	114 600.05	(27.9.1982)	(for 1982)	
	2	US\$	104 783.36	(5.4.1984)	(for 1984)	
	3	US\$	93 187.96	(25.4.1985)	(for 1985)	DKr 1 000 000
	4	US\$	120 402.14	(21.3.1986)	(for 1986)	1 000 000
	5	US\$	155 050.78	(4.3.1988)	(for 1987)	
	6	US\$	139 489.47	(30.8.1988)	(for 1988)	1 000 000
	7	US\$	127 534.75	(30.5.1989)	(for 1989)	
	8	US\$	173 430.45	(31.10.1990)	(for 1990)	
	9	US\$	152 068.13	(30.10.1991)	(for 1991)	

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State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
Denmark (continued)	10	US\$	168 661.73	(29.10.1992)	(for 1992)	
	11	US\$	152 493.77	(13.7.1993)	(for 1993)	
	12	US\$	151 347.41	(10.6.1994)	(for 1994)	
	13	US\$	184 535.89	(10.4.1995)	(for 1995)	
Finland	1	US\$	81 729.02	(5.1.1983)	(for 1982)	Fmk 450 000
	2	US\$	52 576.24	(22.9.1983)	(for 1983)	
	3	US\$	75 936.55	(26.6.1984)	(for 1984)	
	4	US\$	87 596.36	(11.10.1985)	(for 1985)	
	5	US\$	104 304.95	(9.6.1986)	(for 1986)	550 000
	6	US\$	134 048.26	(1.4.1987)	(for 1987)	600 000
	7	US\$	154 922.54	(19.1.1988)	(for 1988)	
	8	US\$	153 773.36	(14.4.1989)	(for 1989)	
	9	US\$	171 198.39	(25.4.1990)	(for 1990)	680 000
	10	US\$	174 640.70	(7.5.1991)	(for 1991)	700 000
	11	US\$	180 230.13	(6.7.1992)	(for 1992)	
	12	US\$	170 863.71	(14.4.1993)	(for 1993)	
France	13	US\$	182 017.14	(27.4.1994)	(for 1994)	
	1	US\$	19 480.52	(24.6.1983)	(for 1983)	F 150 000
	2	US\$	20 496.89	(12.4.1984)	(for 1984)	165 000
	3	US\$	26 315.78	(8.5.1985)	(for 1985)	
	4	US\$	37 593.98	(7.10.1986)	(for 1986)	
	5	US\$	40 650.40	(27.8.1987)	(for 1987)	
	6	US\$	18 518.52	(1.2.1988)	(for 1987)	100 000
	7	US\$	76 271.18	(9.1.1989)	(for 1988)	
	8	US\$	32 154.00	(15.3.1989)	(for 1989)	200 000

State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
France (continued)	9	US\$	43 478.26	(8.1.1990)	(for 1989)	
	10	US\$	47 619.04	(3.10.1990)	(for 1990)	
	11	US\$	55 555.55	(24.12.1991)	(for 1991)	
	12	US\$	56 603.77	(20.7.1992)	(for 1992)	300 000
	13	US\$	88 495.57	(2.4.1993)	(for 1993)	
	14	US\$	86 956.52	(24.3.1994)	(for 1994)	
	15	US\$	17 139.86	(8.4.1994)	(for 1994)	
	16	US\$	18 587.37	(27.9.1994)	(for 1994)	
	17	US\$	102 040.82	(7.7.95)	(for 1995)	
Germany	1	US\$	54 106.70	(27.12.1983)	(for 1983)	DM 150 000
	2	US\$	64 277.68	(14.12.1984)	(for 1984)	200 000
	3	US\$	79 032.64	(9.12.1985)	(for 1985)	200 000
	4	US\$	99 216.19	(22.12.1986)	(for 1986)	200 000
	5	US\$	119 688.81	(10.12.1987)	(for 1987)	200 000
	6	US\$	114 943.00	(19.12.1988)	(for 1988)	200 000
	7	US\$	112 549.24	(7.12.1989)	(for 1989)	200 000
	8	US\$	135 749.68	(14.12.1990)	(for 1990)	200 000
	9	US\$	126 103.40	(29.11.1991)	(for 1991)	200 000
	10	US\$	126 223.00	(24.11.1992)	(for 1992)	200 000
	11	US\$	113 450.29	(1.12.1993)	(for 1993)	194 000
	12	US\$	119 760.48	(5.5.1994)	(for 1994)	200 000
	13	US\$	120 805.37 ^{b/}	(2.11.1994)	(for 1995)	180 000
Greece		US\$	39 361.00	(18.5.1995)	(for 1995)	
		US\$	19 536.00	(6.6.1995)	(for 1995)	
	1	US\$	5 000.00	(4.10.1983)	(for 1983)	

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State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
Greece (continued)	2	US\$	5 000.00	(11.12.1984)	(for 1984)	
	3	US\$	5 000.00	(5.5.1985)	(for 1985)	
	4	US\$	5 000.00	(30.6.1986)	(for 1986)	
	5	US\$	5 000.00	(21.4.1987)	(for 1987)	
	6	US\$	5 000.00	(12.4.1988)	(for 1988)	
	7	US\$	5 000.00	(10.3.1989)	(for 1989)	
	8	US\$	5 000.00	(14.11.1990)	(for 1990)	
	9	US\$	5 000.00	(16.4.1993)	(for 1991)	
	10	US\$	5 000.00	(16.4.1993)	(for 1992)	
	11	US\$	10 000.00	(17.5.1994)	(for 1994)	
	12	US\$	10 000.00	(12.4.1995)	(for 1995)	
	1	US\$	186.00	(5.1.1989)	(for 1989)	
Haiti						
Holy See	1	US\$	1 000.00	(22.4.1988)	(for 1988)	
	1	US\$	500.00	(31.12.1993)	(for 1993)	
Hungary	2	US\$	500.00	(2.6.1994)	(for 1994)	
	1	US\$	2 000.00	(2.12.1986)	(for 1986)	
Iceland	2	US\$	2 000.00	(2.12.1987)	(for 1987)	
	3	US\$	2 000.00	(11.5.1989)	(for 1988)	
	4	US\$	2 300.00	(8.3.1990)	(for 1989)	
	5	US\$	2 410.00	(31.1.1991)	(for 1990)	
	6	US\$	4 267.00	(28.1.1992)	(for 1991)	
	7	US\$	5 350.00	(28.8.1992)	(for 1992)	
	8	US\$	5 617.00	(30.12.1993)	(for 1993)	
	9	US\$	3 491.13	(18.5.1994)	(for 1994)	
	10	US\$	5 633.80	(18.5.1995)	(for 1995)	

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State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
Indonesia	1	US\$	1 985.87	(20.7.1988)	(for 1988)	
	2	US\$	5 000.00	(20.4.1993)	(for 1993)	
	1	US\$	5 690.00	(30.4.1984)	(for 1984)	
	2	US\$	7 080.50	(18.4.1985)	(for 1985)	
Ireland	3	US\$	10 872.00	(21.4.1986)	(for 1986)	
	4	US\$	8 940.00	(16.6.1987)	(for 1987)	
	5	US\$	3 207.00	(13.1.1988)	(for 1988)	
	6	US\$	2 858.00	(8.2.1989)	(for 1989)	
	7	US\$	3 572.40	(14.5.1991)	(for 1991)	
	8	US\$	5 815.25	(4.2.1992)	(for 1992)	
	9	US\$	14 805.00	(7.4.1993)	(for 1993)	
	10	US\$	30 080.00	(26.7.1994)	(for 1994)	
Israel	1	US\$	20 000.00	(23.11.1994)	(for 1994)	
Italy	1	US\$	100 000.00	(16.6.1987)	(for 1987)	
	2	US\$	30 000.00	(23.5.1991)	(for 1990)	
	3	US\$	30 000.00	(16.1.1992)	(for 1991)	
	4	US\$	30 000.00	(23.12.1992)	(for 1992)	
	5	US\$	30 000.00	(2.8.1992)	(for 1993)	
	1	US\$	50 000.00	(19.8.1986)	(for 1986)	
	2	US\$	50 000.00	(23.10.1987)	(for 1987)	
	3	US\$	50 000.00	(24.6.1988)	(for 1988)	
Japan	4	US\$	50 000.00	(27.12.1989)	(for 1989)	
	5	US\$	50 000.00	(30.4.1991)	(for 1990)	
	6	US\$	50 000.00	(31.1.1992)	(for 1991)	
	7	US\$	100 000.00	(18.2.1993)	(for 1992)	

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State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
Japan (continued)	8	US\$	100 000.00	(14.1.1994)	(for 1993)	
	9	US\$	100 000.00	(22.2.1995)	(for 1994)	
Jordan	1	US\$	1 000.00	(10.2.1984)	(for 1984)	
Kenya	1	US\$	400.00	(24.4.1985)	(for 1985)	
	2	US\$	500.00	(23.4.1987)	(for 1987)	
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	1	US\$	5 000.00	(3.8.1988)	(for 1988)	
	2	US\$	5 000.00	(5.10.1993)	(for 1993)	
Liechtenstein	1	US\$	2 286.00	(5.4.1984)	(for 1984)	Sw F 5 000
	2	US\$	2 958.58	(15.8.1986)	(for 1986)	5 000
	3	US\$	3 597.00	(8.4.1988)	(for 1988)	5 000
	4	US\$	7 901.00	(1.4.1992)	(for 1991)	10 000
	5	US\$	6 438.00	(27.5.1993)	(for 1992)	10 000
	6	US\$	6 591.00	(10.12.1993)	(for 1993)	10 000
	7	US\$	7 029.88	(23.4.1994)	(for 1994)	
Luxembourg	1	US\$	2 019.84	(5.4.1983)	(for 1983)	
	2	US\$	1 835.03	(17.11.1983)	(for 1983)	LuxF 100 000
	3	US\$	900.36	(24.5.1984)	(for 1984)	
	4	US\$	1 681.00	(13.8.1984)	(for 1984)	
	5	US\$	1 421.80	(9.10.1986)	(for 1986)	60 000
	6	US\$	1 102.71	(20.11.1987)	(for 1987)	
	7	US\$	2 917.15	(15.5.1990)	(for 1990)	
	8	US\$	2 959.42	(19.5.1992)	(for 1991)	
	9	US\$	3 017.60	(23.4.1993)	(for 1992)	100 000
	10	US\$	2 785.71	(20.12.1993)	(for 1993)	100 000
	11	US\$	3 131.61	(27.9.1994)	(for 1994)	

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State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
Luxembourg (continued)	12	US\$	5 330.00	(24.4.1995)	(for 1995)	150 000
Malta	1	US\$	300.00	(1.3.1989)	(for 1989)	
Mauritius	1	US\$	999.31	(21.1.1994)	(for 1994)	
Monaco	1	US\$	15 000.00	(6.7.1994)	(for 1994)	
	2	US\$	16 778.00	(4.5.1995)	(for 1995)	
Morocco	1	US\$	1 500.00	(4.5.1995)	(for 1995)	
	1	US\$	45 000.00	(6.7.1982)	(for 1982)	
Netherlands	2	US\$	50 000.00	(7.5.1984)	(for 1984)	
	3	US\$	14 415.00	(18.4.1985)	(for 1984)	f. 50 000
	4	US\$	46 335.00	(4.9.1985)	(for 1985)	150 000
	5	US\$	44 799.38	(6.6.1986)	(for 1986)	115 000
	6	US\$	121 012.46	(28.11.1986)	(for 1986)	
	7	US\$	50 308.14	(22.12.1988)	(for 1988)	8 000
	8	US\$	40 521.72	(22.12.1989)	(for 1989)	45 000
	9	US\$	26 805.66	(26.12.1990)	(for 1990)	100 000
	10	US\$	54 990.69	(12.12.1991)	(for 1991)	100 000
	11	US\$	52 631.58	(1.3.1994)	(for 1992)	200 000
	12	US\$	103 248.00	(1.3.1994)	(for 1993)	200 000
	13	US\$	113 787.88	(30.12.1994)	(for 1994)	25 000
New Zealand	1	US\$	13 400.00	(14.2.1986)	(for 1986)	SNZ
	2	US\$	15 610.00	(27.2.1987)	(for 1987)	30 000
	3	US\$	20 040.00	(5.2.1988)	(for 1988)	
	4	US\$	18 420.00	(17.3.1989)	(for 1989)	
	5	US\$	17 685.00	(14.3.1990)	(for 1990)	
	6	US\$	17 676.00	(29.5.1991)	(for 1991)	30 000

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State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
New Zealand (continued)	7	US\$	27 494.00	(22.5.1992)	(for 1992)	
	8	US\$	15 957.00	(25.5.1993)	(for 1993)	
	9	US\$	15 579.00	(16.5.1994)	(for 1994)	
	10	US\$	19 890.00	(15.5.1995)	(for 1995)	
Norway	1	US\$	100 000.00	(2.3.1982)	(for 1982)	
	2	US\$	136 967.54	(24.10.1983)	(for 1983)	NKr 1 000 000
	3	US\$	5 000.00	(14.11.1986)	(for 1986)	
	4	US\$	50 000.00	(12.2.1987)	(for 1987)	
	5	US\$	75 000.00	(30.12.1988)	(for 1988)	
	6	US\$	99 985.00	(6.5.1991)	(for 1991)	
	7	US\$	74 985.00	(31.12.1992)	(for 1992)	
	8	US\$	99 973.48	(20.7.1993)	(for 1993)	
	9	US\$	95 884.69	(25.5.1994)	(for 1994)	
	10	US\$	81 351.00	(16.6.1995)	(for 1995)	
Republic of Korea	1	US\$	5 000.00	(29.12.1988)	(for 1988)	
	2	US\$	5 000.00	(22.12.1989)	(for 1989)	
San Marino	1	US\$	2 117.31	(28.2.1984)	(for 1983)	Lit 3 500 000
	2	US\$	2 258.93	(24.8.1984)	(for 1984)	4 000 000
Senegal	1	US\$	186.00	(1.1.1987)	(for 1987)	
Spain	1	US\$	13 176.09	(25.4.1986)	(for 1986)	Ptas 2 000 000
	2	US\$	19 196.65	(7.4.1987)	(for 1987)	
	3	US\$	22 304.50	(31.3.1988)	(for 1988)	
	4	US\$	34 884.88	(13.3.1989)	(for 1989)	
	5	US\$	36 730.27	(14.3.1990)	(for 1990)	
	6	US\$	34 798.64	(22.8.1991)	(for 1991)	

State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
Spain (continued)	7	US\$	67 187.52	(19.3.1992)	(for 1992)	
	8	US\$	58 500.75	(30.3.1993)	(for 1993)	
	9	US\$	48 045.46	(24.2.1994)	(for 1994)	
	10	US\$	54 660.59	(5.4.1995)	(for 1995)	7 000 000
Sri Lanka	1	US\$	500.00	(25.4.1988)	(for 1988)	
	2	US\$	500.00	(12.2.1991)	(for 1990)	
	3	US\$	500.00	(12.2.1991)	(for 1991)	
	4	US\$	500.00	(8.3.1993)	(for 1992)	
Sweden	1	US\$	150 000.00	(14.6.1982)	(for 1982)	
	2	US\$	60 790.27	(16.1.1984)	(for 1984)	
	3	US\$	72 020.16	(31.10.1986)	(for 1986)	
	4	US\$	95 655.64	(1.7.1988)	(for 1988)	
	5	US\$	169 097.00	(29.11.1991)	(for 1991)	SKr 1 000 000
	6	US\$	173 631.46	(20.2.1992)	(for 1992)	1 000 000
	7	US\$	247 142.42	(13.10.1993)	(for 1993)	2 000 000
	8	US\$	376 647.83	(22.10.1993)	(for 1994)	3 000 000
	9	US\$	475 367.00	(11.11.1994)	(for 1995)	3 500 000
	1	US\$	68 540.10	(3.1.1984)	(for 1984)	Sw F 150 000
	2	US\$	92 165.90	(30.10.1986)	(for 1986)	150 000
	3	US\$	32 258.06	(1.3.1989)	(for 1989)	50 000
	4	US\$	15 748.03	(18.1.1991)	(for 1990)	20 000
	5	US\$	25 925.93	(15.1.1992)	(for 1991)	35 000
	6	US\$	46 357.62	(6.1.1993)	(for 1992)	70 000
	7	US\$	52 777.78	(23.12.1993)	(for 1993)	76 000
Switzerland	8	US\$	24 409.45	(16.1.1995)	(for 1995)	

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State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
Togo	1	US\$	1 540.43	(15.3.1989)	(for 1989)	
Tunisia	1	US\$	1 298.70	(16.5.1991)	(for 1991)	D 1 000
	2	US\$	1 298.70	(16.4.1992)	(for 1992)	1 000
	3	US\$	1 948.00	(15.4.1992)	(for 1993)	1 500
	4	US\$	1 753.24	(9.6.1993)	(for 1993, additional)	
	5	US\$	1 489.57	(14.11.1994)	(for 1994)	1 500
	1	US\$	737.00	(19.7.1994)	(for 1994)	
Uganda	1	US\$	12 445.00	(2.10.1984)	(1985 + 86)	£ 10 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2	US\$	41 987.50	(20.5.1987)	(1987 + 88)	25 000
	3	US\$	50 733.00	(15.2.1990)	(1989 + 90)	25 000
	4	US\$	42 006.58	(24.9.1991)	(1991 + 92)	25 000
	5	US\$	52 238.81	(15.2.1994)	(1993 + 94)	35 000
	6	US\$	48 328.00	(9.5.1995)	(for 1995)	
United States of America	1	US\$	100 000.00	(1.10.1985)	(for 1985)	
	2	US\$	86 000.00	(1.2.1987)	(for 1986)	
	3	US\$	86 000.00	(1.6.1987)	(for 1987)	
	4	US\$	90 000.00	(18.2.1992)	(for 1988)	
	5	US\$	100 000.00	(18.2.1992)	(for 1989)	
	6	US\$	100 000.00	(18.2.1992)	(for 1990)	
	7	US\$	100 000.00	(18.2.1992)	(for 1991)	
	8	US\$	97 000.00	(23.12.1992)	(for 1992)	
	9	US\$	500 000.00	(29.3.1993)	(for 1993)	
	10	US\$	1 500 000.00 £/	(20.5.1994)	(for 1994)	

State	Contribution No.	Currency	Amount	Date pledged/paid	Contribution year	Equivalent in local currency
United States of America (continued)	11	US\$	1 500 000.00	(24.1.1995)	(for 1995)	
Yugoslavia	1	US\$	5 000.00	(18.12.1990)	(for 1980)	

a/ Pledge made by letter.

b/ Pledge made at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities in New York in November 1993.

c/ US\$ 500,000 paid on 18.8.94 and US\$ 1 million on 24.10.94.

Annex II

HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE
FROM THE FUND

A. Organizations that have authorized the Fund secretariat
to mention their identity, the type of assistance they
provide and their geographical coverage

Organization	Type of assistance provided	Geographical area covered
Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo (APM) (Argentina)	Psychological, social, legal	Latin America
Amigos de los Sobrevivientes (Oregon, United States)	Medical, psychological, social	Latin America
APT (Switzerland)	Organization of seminars	Europe
ATYHA Instituto de Alternativas en Psicología (Asunción, Paraguay)	Medical, psychological, social	Latin America
AVRE Association pour les victimes de la répression en exil (Paris)	Medical, psychological, social, training of health- care professionals	Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America
BALAY Rehabilitation Centre (Quezon City, Philippines)	Medical, psychological, social	Asia
Behandlungszentrum für Folteropfer (Berlin)	Medical, psychological, social, training of health- care professionals	Africa, Asia, Europe, Eastern Europe, Latin America, Middle East
CAPSDH Ghana Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme (Accra)	Medical, psychological, social	Africa
CAPSDH Guinea Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme (Guinea)	Medical, psychological, social	Africa

Organization	Type of assistance provided	Geographical area covered
CAPSDH Carvitore Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme (Eritrea)	Medical	Africa
CCVT Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture (Toronto, Canada)	Medical, psychological	Latin America, Africa, Asia, Middle East
CEFPRODHAC Centro de Estudios Fronterizos y de Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (Tamaulipas, Mexico)	Medical, psychological, legal	Latin America
CIIS California Institute of Integral Studies (California, United States)	Medical, psychological	Latin America, Asia
CINTRAS Centro de Salud Mental y Derechos Humanos (Santiago)	Medical, psychological, social, training of health-care professionals	Latin America
CODESEDH Comité para la Defensa de la Salud, la Etica Profesional y los Derechos Humanos (Buenos Aires)	Medical, psychological, social, seminars	Latin America
COMEDE Comité médical pour les exilés (Paris)	Medical, psychological, social, training of health-care professionals	Africa, Asia, Latin America
Swedish Red Cross (Stockholm)	Medical, psychological, social, training of health-care professionals	Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America
CVICT Centre for Victims of Torture (Kathmandu)	Medical, psychological, social	Asia
CVT Centre for Victims of Torture (Minnesota, United States)	Medical, psychological, social	World wide

Organization	Type of assistance provided	Geographical area covered
EATIP Equipo Argentino de Trabajo e Investigación Psicosocial (Buenos Aires)	Medical, psychological, social	Latin America
EXIL Centre médico-psychosocial pour réfugiés (Brussels)	Medical, psychological, social, training of health- care professionals	Africa, Latin America, Asia
FASIC Fundación de Ayuda Social de las Iglesias Cristianas (Santiago)	Medical, psychological, social, legal, seminars	Latin America
FIND Family of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance (Philippines)	Psychological	Asia
Geneva Initiative on Psychiatry and Ukrainian Psychiatric Association (Amsterdam)	Medical, psychological, social	Eastern Europe
HRFT Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir)	Medical, psychological	Europe
ICAR Foundation (Bucharest)	Medical, psychological, social	Eastern Europe
IMA Indian Medical Association (India)	Training of health- care professionals	Asia
Iglesia Metodista Centro de Salud Mental (Punta Arenas, Chile)	Medical, psychological	Latin America
JKC Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (London)	Medical, psychological, social	Asia
Justice pour Tazmamart (Morocco)	Social	Africa

Organization	Type of assistance provided	Geographical area covered
LAPPH Ligue des anciens prisonniers politiques haitiens, des amis et parents des disparus (Port-au-Prince)	Medical, social, legal	Caribbean
Mandela Institute (Israel)	Medical, psychological, legal	Middle East
MIDU Mutualista Israelita del Uruguay (Montevideo)	Medical, psychological	Latin America
Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture (London)	Medical, psychological, social, training of health-care professionals	World wide
Methodist Church of Southern Africa (Durban, South Africa)	Medical, psychological, social, legal	Africa
PCATI (Israel)	Legal	Middle East
PIDEE Fundación para la protección de la infancia dañada por los estados de emergencia (Santiago)	Medical, social and educational assistance for child victims of torture	Latin America
POC Prisoners of Conscience Appeal Fund (London)	Social	Middle East, Africa, Eastern Europe
Primo Levi (France)	Medical, psychological, social	Europe
PTV Programme for Torture Victims (California, United States)	Medical, psychological, social	Latin America, Asia, Africa
RCT Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims (Copenhagen)	Medical, psychological, seminars, training of health-care professionals	World wide

Organization	Type of assistance provided	Geographical area covered
RIVO Réseau d'intervention auprès des personnes ayant subi la violence organisée (Montreal, Canada)	Medical, psychological, social	Africa, Latin America, Middle East
SELDA Society of Ex-Detainees for Liberation against Detention and for Amnesty (Manila)	Medical, psychological, social, legal	Asia
SOS Torture (Geneva)	Emergency aid for torture victims	Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America
Survivors International of Northern California (California, United States)	Medical, psychological, training of health-care professionals	Africa, Latin America, Asia, Eastern Europe, Middle East
Taller Julio Cortázar (Córdoba, Argentina)	Medical, psychological, social and legal assistance for child victims of torture	Latin America
TNM Tortura Nunca Mais (Rio de Janeiro)	Medical, psychological, social	Latin America
VAT Voice Against Torture (Islamabad)	Medical, psychological, social, training of health-care professionals	Middle East, Asia
ZEBRA Zentrum zur sozialmedizinischen, rechtlichen und kulturellen Betreuung von Ausländern und Ausländerinnen (Graz, Austria)	Medical, psychological, social	Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Middle East

B. Other organizations

Some humanitarian, medical and social organizations preferred not to appear on this list. The Fund secretariat is, however, authorized to report their number (65), type of activity (medical, psychological and social assistance, training of health-care professionals) and geographical areas of operation (Latin America, Asia, South-East Asia, Middle East, Eastern Europe and Africa).

Annex IIIPRESS RELEASE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FOURTEENTH SESSION
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

From 1983 to 1995, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture has supported more than 100 organizations and financed more than 500 requests for assistance to torture victims in about 60 countries. The projects subsidized by the Fund fall essentially into the following fields: psychotherapy, medical care, social rehabilitation, and training of professionals and volunteers (doctors, psychologists, physiotherapists, paramedical personnel, social workers, etc.) for specialized treatment of torture victims. In addition to helping victims of torture directly, the Fund has also been able to assist the relatives of the latter with their psychological, economic, legal and social problems, and has contributed to the development and application of suitable treatments for torture victims.

Each year, the Board of Trustees of the Fund meets for eight working days to examine narrative, financial and audit reports on the use of grants made in previous years as well as requests for continuing assistance and new projects.

During its fourteenth session, which ended on 24 May 1995, the Board assessed the implementation of the projects subsidized by the Fund and heard 11 persons responsible for 37 of them. In 1995, 104 projects were recommended to the Secretary-General, for a total amount of US\$ 2.7 million. However, with requests for assistance totalling \$5.7 million, not more than half of the required amounts could be granted in 1995.

Although, for the second time since 1994, the United States contributed to the Fund with an amount of \$1.5 million, the Board of Trustees had \$1 million less at its disposal this year. No later than last February, only \$1.5 million were available for new grants to be recommended by the Board at its annual session in May. Therefore, in its resolution 1995/37, the Commission on Human Rights appealed to Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute to the Fund, if possible, on a regular basis and annually before the session of the Board of Trustees. The positive replies of a number of Governments have helped improve the financial situation of the Fund. Those Governments are the following: Argentina, Austria, Chile, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Background information

The struggle by the United Nations against torture began in 1948, when torture was prohibited by the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was again prohibited in 1966 by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and in 1984 by the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Despite these repeated prohibitions under international law, torture is still a widespread phenomenon and there is every reason to continue the struggle for its eradication.

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One of the means to mitigate the effects of torture on the victims and their families is to give them medical, psychological, social, legal and economic aid. With this in mind, the General Assembly established, in 1981, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture to direct humanitarian, legal and financial assistance to victims of torture and to relatives of such victims anywhere in the world through established channels of assistance. The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with the advice of a Board of Trustees consisting of five members with wide experience in the field of human rights. The membership of the Board of Trustees is as follows: Mr. Jaap Walkate, Chairman (Netherlands), Ms. Elisabeth Odio-Benito (Costa Rica), Mr. Ribot Hatano (Japan), Mr. Ivan Tosevski (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) and Mr. Amos Wako (Kenya).

Since the establishment of the Fund the following Governments have contributed either on a regular or on a one-off basis: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, Togo, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia.
